

Lebanese censorship relaxed

BEIRUT, March 12 (R). — Lebanese security authorities today relaxed censorship of the country's press, radio and television which has been in force in Jan. 1. Newspapers will still need the stamp of official approval before they can be distributed, but security officials explained that they will now be able to include reporting of fighting between Palestinian commandos and Lebanese rightists in the south of the country and anything concerning sectarian differences. A spokesman for the censor's office said censorship could only be completely lifted by government decree, and newspapers would continue to exercise self-censorship.

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To protest killing of student

Thousands of demonstrators battle with police in Rome

ROME, March 12 (AFP). — Fighting students buried Molotov cocktail firebombs and overturned cars to build barricades in central Rome today in battles with police during which four policemen were shot and injured and which left streets thick with tear gas.

According to one estimate, 1,000 persons took part in demonstrations in the capital called by the extreme leftist "Continuazione (Continuing Struggle)" group, following the slaying yesterday of a medical student at Bologna University.

There were renewed clashes in Bologna today, with demonstrators using firebombs and setting up barricades. Fire-

men who attempted to fight a blaze in a restaurant were attacked by rioters. Ten thousand persons paraded earlier through Bologna's streets, obeying a call by Italy's three main labour federations.

Other incidents were reported elsewhere in Italy, but it was Rome that bore the brunt of today's protest demonstrations. There were moments of panic when police fired tear gas canisters into the crowd.

Clashes between police and students erupted after students bombarded the facade of the headquarters of the ruling Christian Democrat Party with Molotov cocktails. Shop windows were smashed and demonstrators began erecting barricades

close to the historic Piazza Navona.

Many shops rolled down their steel shutters. The headquarters of the main political parties were being guarded by police and five youths were arrested at the beginning of the demonstration for ripping up paving stones from the roadway to use as missiles.

The students intended to march down the Via Nazionale, one of the city's main streets, although they had been forbidden to do so by police. They were persuaded to take another route after negotiations conducted by Lucio Magri, a member of parliament belonging to the extreme leftwing Proletarian Unity Party.

Egypt asks for Security Council meet on M.E. peace deadlock

UNITED NATIONS, March 12 (R). — Egypt has decided to ask for an early meeting of the United Nations Security Council to debate the failure of efforts so far to reactivate the Middle East peace conference at Geneva, diplomatic sources said today.

The sources said Egyptian Ambassador Ismat Abdul Meguid discussed the proposal informally last night with the chief U.S. delegate, Andrew Young, the council president for March.

There was no immediate public reaction from Mr. Young, who was in California today.

He is expected to consult the other council members on the matter when they meet informally on Tuesday to plan the 15-nation council's programme for the rest of the month.

They have already agreed to open debate on March 21 on the situation in South Africa. A meeting also is in prospect on a report from a council mission which took evidence of an attempt by foreign elements to overthrow the government of the African state of Benin, which is a council member.

The situation in Rhodesia also may be discussed during the month, but diplomatic sources said Egypt was pressing for priority for Middle East debate over all the other questions.

He tells Palestinian National Council

Sadat: "Secure borders" an obsolete Israeli concept

CAIRO, March 12 (R). — President Anwar Sadat today rejected President Carter's suggestion that there should be minor adjustments to Israel's pre-1967 borders and an Israeli defence capability in Arab territories.

The Egyptian leader, addressing the opening session of the Palestinian National Council (PNC), said: "It is no longer acceptable that some should talk again about secure borders within the Israeli concepts, which are obsolete."

"Let me repeat before you that we do not accept giving up a single inch of our territory and that our national territory is not open to bargaining."

On Wednesday, President Carter told a press conference that a Middle East peace settlement would probably involve "some minor adjustments in the 1967 borders."

President Carter also raised the possibility of an "Israeli defence capability beyond the permanent and recognised borders."

President Sadat said: "Any talk about secure borders must take place within the framework of a comprehensive settlement during which all aspects of the problem should be discussed, foremost among them the Palestinian cause."

"One of the starting points in this respect should be the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Arab occupied territories, respect of territorial integrity and non-acquisition of territories by force because we are not going to reward aggression but eliminate it."

President Sadat told almost 300 delegates to the council, the first since 1974, that it was their duty to work "by all available means" to regain Palestinian territory today rather than tomorrow.

"Any delay in reaching this means consecration of the Israeli occupation, deepening its roots and giving Israel the chance to create a new fait accompli in the occupied territories," he said to applause from the assembly.

Observers here said the Egyptian president was referring to new Israeli settlements in the Sinai, the Golan Heights and the West Bank.

"The position of our brothers in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip requires that we should not lose a moment in freeing them as soon as possible from the claws of occupation," Mr. Sadat said in a 20-minute address.

Observers here said that President Sadat's speech was a reflection of Arab anger over Mr. Carter's remarks, made without consulting leaders in the area.

An editorial in the English-language Cairo newspaper *Egyptian Gazette* yesterday said that the Carter administration was making "every effort to ensure that there will be a fifth Arab-Israeli war."

Mr. Sadat said that Israel was raising every day new obstacles which made the achievement of peace "a far-fetched possibility."

"It is no longer a secret that Israel is the intransigent party (in the Middle East) which fears peace and comes forward every day with new conditions making peace remote."

He added that Egypt insisted that the Palestinian people would remain free and independent and that the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) must be the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

Mr. Sadat called on delegates to take advantage of all available chances for a settlement of the conflict and "knock on all doors leading to the (Palestinian) goals."

He added: "We cannot recall people achieving their goals through negativism or hesitation."

Observers here interpreted his remarks as an implicit call on the Palestinians to work towards the establishment of a "mini-state" on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Mr. Sadat said that the Arabs still had the choice between peace and war to solve the conflict, added that Egypt's armed forces were ready to deal with what he termed "any situation."

Mr. Sadat's speech drew a positive response from middle-of-the-road delegates, but delegates representing the extreme ends of the political spectrum voiced dissatisfaction.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat told reporters after the meeting that Mr. Sadat had made clear that the Palestinian issue was the crux of the Middle East conflict and that there could be no solution to it unless the national rights of the Palestinians were restored.

A delegate from Fateh, the main guerrilla group, welcomed the fact that Mr. Sadat had left open the possibility of military action to solve the Middle East problem.

But a delegate representing the rightwing of the PLO said Mr. Sadat should have clearly spelt out that the West Bank and Gaza should become Palestinian territory once the Israelis had withdrawn.

A member of the hard-line Rejection Front opposed to any peaceful settlement of the conflict remarked that the Egyptian president had simply used the council as a vehicle to vent his anger with President Carter.

The Cairo-PNC meeting follows a decision to expand the national council by more than 100 members and there has been intense lobbying by both "hawks" and "doves" to sway the newcomers towards their respective positions.

The new members of the PNC include representatives from Palestinian exile commu-

Assad plans summit with Soviets

BEIRUT, March 12 (R). — Syrian President Hafez Assad is planning a summit meeting with Soviet leaders that could improve relations between Damascus and the Kremlin. Highly-placed sources in the Syrian capital said yesterday that the meeting would be held either in Moscow or Damascus. Well-informed diplomats here said Moscow was the more likely venue. The disclosure yesterday that he is expected to meet Soviet leaders maintains Syria's carefully orchestrated balance in relations with the Soviet Union and the United States.

Pakistani opposition calls for demonstration to oust Bhutto

HORE, Pakistan, March 12 (R). — Pakistani defected opposition parties today called for nationwide demonstrations to oust the ousted Premier Feroz Khan Bhutto for allegedly rigging the general elections this week.

The nine-party Pakistan National Alliance (PNA) told a press conference that the mass movement against Mr. Bhutto, the ruling Pakistan People's Party (PPP) would be launched Monday.

he demonstrations would be of defiance of a government ban on public gatherings, imposed last Monday's elections.

he army has been on the t for the last week and troops in battle dress have been rolling the country's main as in an effort to check class which have left at least 12 ple dead since Monday.

he PNA leadership claimed elections were rigged and wanted a fresh vote under re-taker government formed consultation with the opposition parties.

he PPP swept back into power in Monday's election with of the 200 National Assembly seats. The PNA opposed only 34.

he size of the victory surprised even some members of ruling party, but Mr. Bhutto strenuously denied that polls were fixed.

he principal PNA leaders the press conference today they had called the nation's demonstrations to dema-

.. Mr. Bhutto's immediate resignation.

.. The formation of a caretaker government by President Fazal Elahi Chaudhry after talks with the opposition.

.. The establishment of a new election commission, and

.. Fresh general elections to be held under the caretaker government and new election commission, with the army supervising the voting.

The chairman of the PNA's Central Council, Maulana Mufi Mahmud, said the demonstrations would continue until all these demands were met.

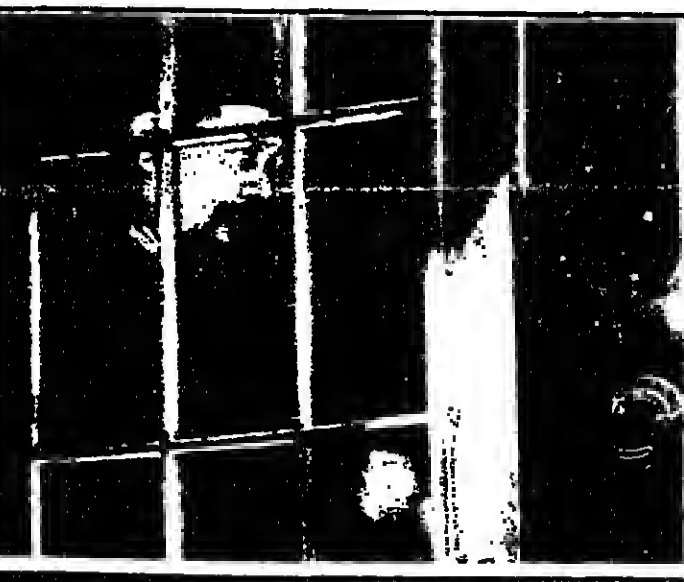
Opposition sources said they believed there would be a big response to their call for demonstrations, judging by the support shown yesterday for the PNA's strike.

The strike call virtually paralysed Karachi, the country's biggest city, and disrupted most other major cities and towns, although the pro-government press today reported that it was generally a flop.

More than 200 people were arrested in Karachi today after violence during yesterday's strike, the government said last night.

An official statement said police made numerous teargas and baton charges to disperse crowds who wanted to damage railway tracks and block roads.

The situation was under control and security had been stepped up to protect life and property, the statement added.



POLICE AT KHAALIS HOME — A metropolitan police officer talks to Hanafi Black Muslims at the doorway of his home as they responded to a bomb threat call today. The Hanafi Black Muslim leader was released earlier in the day after leading a group of his followers in holding hostages in three Washington buildings on his own recognizance. (AP wirephoto).

Hanafi Black Muslims threaten further trouble if film showing resumes

WASHINGTON, March 12 (R). — A woman identifying herself as the wife of Hanafi Black Muslim leader Hanafi Black Khalis said today that any showing of a previously withdrawn film about the prophet Mohammed would cause new trouble across America — worse than this week's Washington sieges.

Withdrawal of the film, "Mohammad, Messenger of God," was one of the demands initially granted to Hanafi gunmen who held more than 130 people hostage in three Washington buildings.

But after the hostages were freed yesterday, the movie's

distributor and producer announced plans to resume the showings. The film was scheduled to open at theatres in New York and Los Angeles later today.

"If the picture goes on, then they know more trouble is coming," a woman calling herself Mrs. Khadija Khalis told Reuters in a telephone interview. She said the trouble would be "all over the country."

Mrs. Khalis, 50, was speaking from a house in an affluent district of Washington, which served as Hanafi headquarters. Referring to her 54-year-old husband, now free without bail on an armed kidnapping charge, Mrs. Khalis said: "He showed mercy and compassion, so people can't call him a terrorist, or a killer or a cannibal. If the other parties want to break their agreement, it'll be much worse."

She could have had a blood bath... there were agreements made."

But she declined to give details of any other purported agreements, or identify the persons with whom they were made.

The only known deal concluded by the authorities for the freeing of the hostages was the release without bail of Khalis at a court hearing yesterday.

At later hearings three of his followers were also freed without cash bond. Eight others were remanded in sums ranging between \$50,000 and \$75,000. All face armed kidnapping charges.

But U.S. Attorney Earl Silbert, saying the defendants had "imposed a reign of terror on their hostages," said felony murder indictments would be sought in all cases.

3 KILLED IN RHODESIA FARM SHOOTING

SALISBURY, March 12 (R). — A 12-year-old orphan girl and her grandmother were shot dead by raiders who attacked their farmhouse 65 km from Salisbury last night.

Members of the family said nationalist guerrillas entered the house through the back door and killed Sharon MacRobert and 55-year-old Mrs. Muriel Hastings in a hail of fire.

The child's grandfather, Mr. Henry Hastings, 67, shot one of the attackers dead and wounded another. The others escaped. But while he was telling security forces about the killings an hour later, he collapsed and died of a heart attack.

And when news of the tragedy reached Sharon's great-aunt Mrs. Norma Sim, she, too, collapsed and died in her Salisbury home.

Smith faces party rebels Monday over Rhodesian land reform bill

March 12 (R). — Ian Smith sets to quell a rebellion to quash a Rhodesian Front bill to make Rhodesia a "non-racial" state.

He will persuade members of the ruling party's members of parliament last night to oppose a government bill which opens up millions of hectares of land, hitherto set aside for whites, to ownership by any race.

The bill scraped through House of Assembly after a black opposition members ported it.

trapping race discrimination in white-minority Rhodesia is an essential part of Mr. Smith's plan for an final settlement.

He hopes that if he creates a non-racial state, black nationalist leaders in Rhodesia negotiate a settlement which will gain international acceptance.

discarding the race laws represents a radical shift in Rhodesian policy and it is Mr. Smith's task to convince his party of the need for this change.

Monday the Prime Minister travels to Bulawayo where he will address a meeting of local party members, including of the dissenting M.P.s.

In Wednesday the party's member National Executive

Committee meets. It is expected to call a special party congress, to be held within 21 days, to discuss the split in the party ranks.

Political observers believe the congress will be the stormiest since the Rhodesian Front was formed in 1962.

The prime minister is known to be keen to shed the fear of his party's dissident rightwing which poses a danger to his settlement plans. The 12 dissidents have in turn hinted that they are preparing to form a new party.

If they did so they would become the first white opposition group in parliament since 1965. They would have the voting strength to block constitutional legislation, which requires a two-thirds majority, unless black members supported the government again.

The rebels include former Defence Minister Reg Cowper and the former Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, Ted Sutton-Pryce.

But among whites generally in Rhodesia, support for "Good old Smith" seems undiminished. Political observers here believe he will oust the rebels and obtain a mandate from the congress for the changes he thinks necessary.

However, just which black leaders will negotiate his settlement with is not clear. This week the United African National Council (UANC) led by

Bishop Abel Muzorewa said it would not be party to such a settlement unless Britain was in the chair.

Bishop Muzorewa, who left Ivory Coast last night for Ghana, criticised Mr. Smith's moves to introduce land reforms.

He said Africans wanted power now. They were not interested in inadequate reforms which had come rather late in the day.

Bishop Muzorewa said he was ready to share power in Rhodesia with other nationalist leaders because this was a right for all Zimbabwe citizens.

In Rhodesia the bishop appears to be by far the most popular of the nationalist leaders, but he does not enjoy the support of the black guerrillas warring on Rhodesia's borders from external bases.

With leaders of these guerrillas excluded from Mr. Smith's plans, this leaves only the Zimbabwe United People's Organisation (ZUPO), formed last December by two chiefs who resigned from the government.

The ZUPO leaders say they have the support of five million of the country's six million black majority. But they have been scornfully dismissed by other nationalist leaders.

In any event, a settlement without the externally-based guerrilla leaders would mean that the bloody and economically-crippling bush war would continue.

Israeli troops break up West Bank demonstrations

TEL AVIV, March 12 (R). — Israeli border guards used batons and tear gas grenades to break up demonstrations by Arab students in occupied Nabulus and Ramallah today, military government sources said.

Pupils from a number of high schools in Nabulus took to the streets, shouting support for the Palestinian National Council meeting in Cairo. They threw rocks at a passing Israeli border guards jeep and set fire to a petrol drum and old motor-car tyres.

They dispersed when charged by troops and security forces and four youngsters were arrested, the sources said.

In Ramallah, pupils stayed away from school, but shops were open. In a nearby Palestine refugee camp, tear gas was used to break up a mass demonstration. No arrests were reported.

Students in Bethlehem and Beit Jala, near Jerusalem, sang nationalist anthems in the schools and held meetings supporting the national council meeting. Police did not intervene.

Jordan, S. Yemen agree to open diplomatic relations

AMMAN (R). — Jordan and South Yemen have agreed to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level, it was announced simultaneously Saturday by the Foreign Ministries of the two countries.

A statement by the Foreign Ministry here said the measure had been taken "to consecrate brotherly relations and Arab solidarity."

Israel had refrained from giving recognition to the leftist government in the Democratic People's Republic of South Yemen since it gained independence from Britain in 1967.

Rabin: U.S., Israel differ on extent of border modifications

TEL AVIV, March 12 (R). — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said the Israel and American positions differed on the extent of an Israeli withdrawal in a peace settlement with the Arabs.

Mr. Rabin, who was interviewed by Israel Television in New York after two days of talks with President Carter, was commenting on the president's remarks that Israel's borders should include only "some minor adjustments" to the pre-1967 lines.

"There are still differences on this subject between the Israeli and American positions. But I believe that in general there is a great improvement in the U.S. positions on the essence of peace and Israel's need for security when establishing its borders in a signed peace settlement," Mr. Rabin said.

Mr. Rabin told a radio interviewer yesterday that even in a peace settlement Israel could not return to the lines it had before the 1967 war as these were not defensible. "I made our position clear to President Carter," Mr. Rabin added.

He said the president assured him there would be no enforced solution on the region and that it was up to the parties to the conflict to negotiate an agreement. The Israeli leader said the U.S. peace initiative in the Middle East would be renewed in June or July after President Carter completes his round of meetings with Arab leaders. He said Secretary of State Cyrus Vance might return to the Middle East in mid-year.

Israeli officials said tonight they were watching the deliberations of the PNC in Cairo but declined to comment until the outcome of the meeting was clearer.

Remarks by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat rejecting U.S. President Jimmy Carter's press conference remarks on rectifications of Israel's pre-1967 borders were expected to be analysed at a meeting of the cabinet early next week, they said.

They said Mr. Rabin, who is due back tomorrow from his trip to Washington, would report at that time on his talks with President Carter.

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Israel's battles

It is clear from Israeli Premier Rabin's visit to the United States this week that there are clear differences of opinion between the Americans and the Israelis about the extent of the Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab lands that will have to come with any Arab-Israeli peace initiative. Mr. Rabin made this clear in an interview with Israeli television after his talks with President Carter, and the gap between the two countries' positions has also been highlighted by the heated reaction in Israel to President Carter's remarks a few days ago, remarks to the effect that Israel would have to withdraw from virtually all of the Arab territories it occupied in 1967; the Israeli view, reiterated by Mr. Rabin after his talks in Washington, is that Israel will have to hold on to large pieces of Arab land in order to have borders that it considers "secure and defensible". Mr. Rabin has also said there will be a "tough struggle" between the American and Israeli views on final borders.

The fact thus emerges that, as far as one can tell from Mr. Carter's very general statements this week, the Americans are not prepared to back Israel totally and unquestioningly in Israel's almost apostolic view of its territorial requirements. That gulf between the interests of Washington and Tel Aviv has always existed, but in the face of Arab inaction, and the Lebanese war and in the heat of American electoral battles, it has been largely forgotten during the past several years. The remarks of both Mr. Rabin and Mr. Carter this week remind everybody that when the cards are finally put on the Middle East bargaining table, the Israelis will find the Americans to be another player out to maximise his own gains. As Israel has spent the past thirty years fighting the Arabs and holding their land by the gun, it has found American aid to be indispensable, and the Americans have always been forthcoming with the aid. But now that the focus in the Middle East turns to peace prospects, the Israelis will find themselves less in need of American weapons and more in need of their own clear policies on what they want and what they really require.

It is too early to know the full American position on borders or other questions, and these will probably be better known after Mr. Carter meets with Arab leaders in the next several months. But for the moment, it is clear that the Israelis are being faced squarely with the territorial price of the peace they seek, and they are balking at the prospect of paying up. To cover up their inability to come to grips with the Palestinian reality and the peace calls of the Arabs, the Israelis are now preparing to fight the Americans as well as the Arabs.

We're not surprised that while the Arabs look for peace, and the Americans look for ways to help bring peace, the Israelis are looking for another fight.

HUMAN RIGHTS!



Russia's new mobile nuclear warhead throws new factor into arms control

LONDON, England (CSM). — Somewhere in the snow-carpeted forests of the western Ukraine, preparations are going ahead to deploy a new, mobile missile with multiple nuclear warheads — the sleek SS-20. Unless, that is, President Carter's appeal to Moscow at his press conference is heeded.

Solid-fueled, easily transportable, with an accurate guidance system, the SS-20 (which is the code name North Atlantic Treaty Organisation experts give it) can be fired from a mobile launcher to reach any target in Western Europe.

This year, NATO believes, it will start replacing the unwieldy, liquid-propelled, inaccurate SS-4s and SS-5s which have been sited in the western Soviet Union for the past 15 years.

The 600 or so SS-4s and SS-5s, and SS-20s, which will replace them, are intermediate range ballistic missiles (IRBM). They are not included in the strategic arms limitations talks (SALT) between the United States and the Soviet Union because, not being of intercontinental range, they do not threaten the United States.

They are not included in the East-West talks going on in Vienna on the mutual reduction of forces in Central Europe. Since they are sited inside the Soviet Union, they do not fall within the geographic area of the talks. An estimated 7,000 American tactical nuclear warheads in Western Europe are included in the Vienna talks,

however: The NATO allies have offered to remove 1,000 nuclear warheads if the Soviet Union will withdraw one complete tank army from the Central European region.

These Soviet missiles are not tactical, battlefield weapons. They are designed to hit targets like London or Paris. The presently deployed SS-4s and SS-5s, because of their inaccuracy, must be weapons of area destruction. The SS-20s, which have no counterpart in the American nuclear arsenal, will be able to pinpoint targets more precisely.

As Mr. Carter said, if the Soviets do not cease deployment of mobile missiles like the SS-20, it "would put a great pressure on us to develop a mobile missile of our own."

The official attitude of most NATO allies towards this Soviet nuclear threat, targeted specifically against Western Europe, is that it is countered by the nuclear umbrella the United States holds over them.

Overall, as Mr. Carter pointed out, the United States and the Soviet Union are roughly equal in nuclear strength; each has the capacity to destroy the other. The allies, officially, trust American assurances that a Soviet attack on, say, Paris or London would invite instant nuclear retaliation from the United States. That, after all, is the meaning of alliance; an attack on one is an attack on all.

Nevertheless, there is disquiet that the Soviet Union explicitly should be targeting so many nuclear missiles against Western Europe and that it should now, with the SS-20, be

seeking to upgrade their efficacy.

Again, as President Carter pointed out, once these missiles become mobile, they are difficult to detect, and therefore difficult to bring within the framework of any arms control agreement.

The authoritative Institute for Strategic Studies here estimates that, whereas the Warsaw Pact forces have 600 intermediate range ballistic missiles targeted against Europe, NATO forces have only 146. Of these, 64 are British submarine-launched missiles, 64 French submarine-launched missiles, and 18 French land-based IRBMs. The "Euro-strategic balance," in short, is lopsidedly in favour of the Soviet Union.

France is a member of NATO but does not participate in NATO's integrated military structure. One important reason the French developed their own independent nuclear deterrent is that they were unwilling to trust their nuclear security entirely to the United States. Perhaps, if Paris and not New York were threatened with nuclear attack, the United States would be willing to attack Leningrad or Kiev. But the French prefer to have their own deterrent as well.

Why does the Soviet Union maintain such a huge arsenal of strategic, not tactical, nuclear weapons targeted on Europe? Does it expect to hold Western Europe hostage, as it were, should a war erupt between the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union?

No one has the answer. Perhaps the Carter appeal will smoke out Soviet intentions.

IN PERSPECTIVE By Jenab Tutunji

Ideological purity above all?

With the eyes of the world turned on the Middle East, the Palestinians are occupying centre stage — along with Israel. The unfortunate thing is that whereas the Israelis have for some time now mastered the art of projecting the image of a peace-loving and endangered species in need of protection, the Palestinians have been left out in the cold as far as international understanding or sympathy are concerned. The Palestinians are still talking the language of ideological purity, as such they are addressing themselves. This is no doubt satisfying, but it is self-defeating.

The Israelis assume (quite correctly) that the average citizen of the United States (where public opinion has the largest bearing on the eventual shape of a Middle East peace settlement) and the average European, are not really aware of the facts or the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Nor is it likely that a man say who reads a provincial U.S. publication is about to be enlightened on the matter.

The Palestinians, on the other hand, talk as though the background to the problem and the actual political constraints on their actions were a matter of common knowledge — which is not the case, even in the Arab World.

Consider a case in point: the PLO recently but unofficially released a document, addressed to Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky and printed in the Viennese Arbeiter Zeitung, which spelled out what I believe is the closest rendition of PLO thinking on the shape of the settlement to the Palestinian problem.

The idea was that the PLO is in favour of setting up an independent Palestinian state on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. In return for this, it was willing to accept some sort of non-belligerence agreement. This could be an interim phase leading to full peace. In return for recognition of Israel and a full peace agreement, the PLO was demanding repatriation of Palestinians within the pre-1948 borders of Israel and compensation for those who choose not to go back.

That was a commendable bit of realism and a good presentation of what the Palestinians can and would in fact accept. In particular, it showed a desire for peace. It drew kudos from Dr. Kreisky in particular.

Nevertheless, this document, which was first unofficially released was later unofficially retracted. To what purpose?

The Arabs in general treat their public releases as statements meant to be read by politicians. They expect the general reader to read between the lines, to assess the political significance of a statement and to appreciate the constraints operative on its release or retraction. The Palestinians are no exception.

When Farouk Kaddoumi spoke to Newsweek last week, he managed to project an image of ideological purity but won little sympathy. Next day the Herald Tribune, for one, came out with an account of the interview which said that the man in charge of the PLO's foreign affairs department had reaffirmed the ultimate goal of the Palestinians: the total destruction of the state of Israel.

With the Palestinian National Assembly meeting today, the question of the national character is in the minds of every one. Israel has been demanding that the Palestinians alter the charter which it claims calls for the destruction of the state of Israel.

In fact, the Palestinian goal is the destruction of the "Jewish state", in other words a state based on a racial and religious ideology which discriminates against those who, by accident of birth, do not belong to a racial elite. In its place, the Palestinians have advocated the establishment of a non-sectarian state in which Jews, Moslems and Christians, including Arabs, Jewish immigrants citizens of what now is the state of Israel, can live together in peace. This is not realistic, yet surely it is not synonymous to what the American public, for instance, understands by the destruction of the state of Israel. The point is lost on them and is an unwieldy thing to put across at the best of times. Definitely what should not be done is to project a hard line image on a question which is so easily misinterpreted, whether innocently or with malice.

The meeting of the Palestinian National Council could do something to rectify this situation, either by rewording the charter or by issuing a declaration that makes this point unambiguously clear. The Palestinians want peace and their rights restored. The latter demand is adamantly clear. The desire for peace has so far only been understood by politicians of international caliber, such as Waldheim and Kreisky.

French go to polls today in one of the tightest elections yet

PARIS, March 12 (AFP). — Municipal elections starting today in France will, unusually for polls of this kind, be seen as a barometer for legislative elections due next year.

They are the first nationwide elections since May, 1974, when Valéry Giscard d'Estaing beat his Socialist-Communist rival Francois Mitterrand for the presidency by 0.62 per cent.

Some 50 of France's 221 largest cities are seen as marginal and in most of them a change would bring the left-wing opposition to power.

In Paris, which contains about 1,260,000 of the country's 53 million voters, the president's choice for city mayor, Industry Minister Michel d'Ornano, faces a challenge from former Premier Jacques Chirac, leader of the Gaullist Rally for the Republic (RPR) the largest party supporting the president.

On the left, the Communist Party has put up a list headed by Henri Fobin despite the presence of their allies in the union of the left, the Socialist Party.

The latest opinion polls gave Socialist Georges Sarre a slight edge over Mr. Chirac. They also gave up to 10 per cent to environmentalist candidates whose campaign has panicked both left and right into making "greener than thou" claims.

Candidates in Paris are contending for 109 seats on the city council, 19 more than in 1971, when the Gaullist UDR Party won 48 to Communist-led opposition's 31.

A left-wing victory in the capital would pose a very serious threat to the parliament.

tary majority backing the president, since for the first time in a century the council will elect a city mayor. He will be one of the most powerful men in France.

The elections, in 36,383 communes run by a total of some 475,000 councillors, involve a first round of voting today and a second, run-off poll on March 20.

To hit on a lighter note, the French woman who is the double of Queen Elizabeth of England is running for the city council of Villeurbanne, a Lyon suburb, in today's election.

Candidate Mrs. Huguette Fumfrock has played the role of the queen in several films. The latest is "Bons baisers de Hong Kong" (Kisses from Hong Kong), starring France's farcical comedians the Charlots.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Two of the Jordanian dailies commented in their Saturday editorials on the importance and historic meaning of the Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting which opened in Cairo Saturday.

AL RA'I, under the heading, "Issues for discussion by the PNC" says that the PNC meeting at this particular time imposes a heavy responsibility on the conferees, as they must decide on three important issues. There are the proposed political solutions which the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) cannot accept or refuse without taking into consideration two tricky factors: The question of the PLO's recognition by the international community and that of its success in exactly assessing the magnitude of the international peace manoeuvre, the paper adds. The second issue, the paper says, consists in the PLO's attempt to achieve a wider representation of the Palestinian people and not remain restricted as the representative of the various commando movements, which have become so diversified that the PLO can no longer keep them under its umbrella. The third factor consists in redefining the PLO's relations with Jordan and Syria, the paper adds. The PLO has already started dealing with the above points and the results obtained will be submitted to the PNC. However, whatever the outcome of the meeting, the paper says, the PLO is capable of shaping its future destiny and accepting all challenges. The Arabs cannot allow the Palestinian Liberation movement to falter or succumb,

in spite of reserves put forward by some Arab parties on some actions or movements, the paper concludes.

AL DUSTOUR, joins the Al RA'I daily in emphasising the importance of the PNC meeting in Cairo. The council is to discuss the PLO's participation in the Geneva Middle East peace conference, the idea of setting up a Palestinian government in exile, the report prepared by the PLO Executive Committee assessing the state of the Palestinian liberation movement with its positive and negative aspects, projected future developments and the Palestinian-Jordanian relationship. The last two points, the paper adds, will be the main subject of discussion by the PNC. The resolutions to be adopted on these two subjects will surely have a crucial effect on the Palestinian liberation movement and on how to develop Arab opposition in the Israeli aggression. These expected results, the paper says, compel us to lay out frankly the following facts: The assessment of the results achieved so far by the Palestinian liberation movement, however late it is, is important to avoid past negativism. The discussion of Jordanian-Palestinian relations should be worked out from a national point of view and not just tactically, the paper says, as these relations have always stemmed from a national necessity and not from any ambitious motive from Jordan. This national point of view should continue to govern their relationship, the paper concludes, as Jordan has not had in the past and will not have in the future any ambitious designs behind its support of the Palestinian liberation movement or links which might result between the PLO and Jordan in the future.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

| Channel 3 & 6: | 9:20 Wrestling |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 6:00 Quran | 10:15 Play |
| Channel 6: | |
| 6:05 Cartoons | 7:30 News in Hebrew |
| 6:30 Six million dollar man | 7:45 Varieties |
| Channel 3: | |
| 8:00 News in Arabic | 8:30 The muppets |
| 7:30 Developmental programme | 9:10 Best sellers |
| 8:30 Arabic series | 10:00 News in English |
| | 10:15 Rockford files |

RADIO JORDAN

| (On 856 KHZ) | 15:00 Concert hour |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 7:00 Morning melodies | 16:00 Old favourites |
| 7:30 News | 16:30 Easy listening |
| 7:40 News reports | 17:00 Arab scientists |
| 8:00 Sign off | 17:30 Pop session |
| 12:00 Pop session | 18:00 News summary |
| 12:30 Catch the words | 18:05 Listener's choice |
| 13:05 Pop session | 19:00 News |
| 14:00 News | 19:10 News reports |
| 14:10 Radio magazine | 19:30 Sign off |
| 14:30 Sign it again | |

EMERGENCIES

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Doctors: | Salam (36730) |
| Amman: | Ghassan (74497) |
| Youssef Smour (63254) | Irbid: |
| Abdul Aziz Abu Khalaf (63552) | Jerusalem |
| Irbid: | Zarqa: |
| Adnan Kalbouni (2460) | Hawuz |
| Marwan Azzam | Royal |
| Zarqa: | Taxi: |
| Fathi Abu Aqqab (83608) | Khayam (41541) |
| Pharmacies: | Firas (23427) |
| Amman: | Mahd (22038) |
| Jerusalem (25655) | Asfour (23230) |
| Lubna (44944) | |

AMMAN AIRPORT

| Arrivals: | Departures: |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 7:55 Cairo (EA) | 8:00 Beirut |
| 8:40 Dubai, Abu Dhabi | 8:45 Beirut (MEA) |
| 10:30 Beirut | 8:45 Cairo (EA) |
| 11:25 Rawalpindi (BA) | 10:00 Larnaca, Athens |
| 14:50 Riyadh (SDI) | 10:30 Cairo |
| 16:20 Muscat, Dubai, Bahrain, (GA) | 12:25 London (BA) |
| 17:00 Cairo | 16:15 Riyadh (SDI) |
| 17:10 London | 17:10 Larnaca (GA) |
| 17:15 Paris, Rome | 18:55 Baghdad, Dhahran |
| 17:30 Copenhagen, Frankfurt | 19:00 Bahrain, Bangkok |
| 17:55 Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva | 20:00 Kuwait |
| 18:20 Athens, Larnaca | 20:30 Tehran |
| 19:40 Beirut (MEA) | 21:00 Jeddah |
| | 22:00 Tehran |

BBC RADIO

| GMT | 13:45 |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 05:00 News, Press Review | Sandi Jones Requests |
| 05:15 New Ideas | Eric Morecambe and |
| 05:25 Book Choice | Ernie Wise |
| 05:30 The King's Singers | Radio Newsweek |
| 05:45 Letter from America | 15:15 Symphony |
| 06:00 News, Press Review | 16:00 News, Commentary |
| 06:30 Sarah Ward Requests | 16:15 Our own correspondent |
| 07:00 News | 16:40 The Week in Wales |
| 07:15 Our own correspondent | 16:45 Lucky Jim |
| 07:30 The King's Singers | 17:00 News |
| 07:45 Book Choice | 17:09 Commonwealth Showcases |
| 07:50 The Melody Makers | 17:40 Book Choice |
| 08:00 News, Reflections | 17:45 Sportscall |
| 08:15 World Radio Club | 18:00 News |
| 08:30 The Pleasure's Yours | 18:15 Radio Newsweek |
| 09:00 News, Press Review | 18:30 My Kind of Music |
| 09:15 From the Weeklies | 19:00 Radio Theatre |
| 09:30 New Ideas | 19:45 Face of England |
| 09:45 Sports Review | 20:00 News, Commentary |
| 10:15 One Piano, Four Hands | 20:15 Letterbox |
| 10:30 Sunday Service | 20:30 Sunday Half-Hour |
| 11:00 News | 21:00 Theatre Call |
| 11:15 Our own correspondent | 21:15 Europa |
| 11:30 Theatre of the Air | 21:30 Jazz Club |
| 12:30 Trio | 22:00 News |
| 13:00 News, Commentary | 22:09 Our own correspondent |
| 13:15 Letter from America | 22:35 Letter from London |
| 13:30 World Service Short Story | 22:45 Sportscall |
| | 23:00 World News, Commentary |

VOICE OF AMERICA

| GMT | 18:30 |
|---|---|
| 03:00 The Breakfast Show: News on the hour and 28 min. after each hour. | 18:00 News and Topical Reports |
| 06:30 News and New Products USA | 19:15 New Horizons |
| 17:00 Critics Choice | 19:30 Studio One |
| 17:15 Issues in the News | 20:00 Special English, News, Words and their Stories The Concert Hall |
| 18:00 Special English, News, Words and their Stories, Feature: People in America, News Summary. | 20:15 News and New Products USA |
| | 21:15 Critics Choice |
| | 21:30 Issues in the News |

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Ambulance (government) | Tel. 75111 |
| Civil defence rescue | " 24391-4 |
| Fire headquarters | " 22899 |
| First aid, fire, police | " 19 |
| Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) | " 36381-3 |
| Municipal water service (emergency) | " 37111-6 |
| Police headquarters | " 39141 |
| Najdah, roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help | " 31111, 37777 |

Cultural Centres

| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| American Centre (USIS) | Tel. 41228 |
| British Council | " 36147-6 |
| French Cultural Centre | " 37000 |
| Goetha Institute | " 41888 |
| Soviet Cultural Centre | " 44398 |
| Amman Municipal Library | " 36111 |

محرك البحث

Electricity linked to Syria next week

MASCUS, March 12 (JNA). — Jordan and Syria will start exchanging electricity next week when their two systems are linked up.

Celebrations on both sides of the border will take place. Jordan's Minister of Industry and Commerce Najmeddin al-Sayid and Syrian Minister of

Power Omar Youssuf -- each representing their respective countries -- will attend the celebration at the Syrian village of Sheikh Miskin.

Officials will then go to Irbid to inaugurate the link-up. Irbid Governorate will benefit from this cooperation, which comes within the framework of Jordanian-Syrian integration.

OCT. 1976 TRADE

DEFICIT TOTALS

JD 25 MILLION

AMMAN (JNA). — Jordan's trade deficit in October 1976 totaled JD 25,189,000, according to the latest figures released by the Department of Statistics.

Jordan's exports came to JD 3,426,000, and her imports JD 28,615,000.

Sources at the Department of Statistics indicated that the main exports were raw phosphate, medicine and tomatoes. Imports were mainly timber, petroleum, cement, medicine and food-supply materials.



The Council of Waqf, Islamic and Holy Places Affairs holds its first meeting Saturday since it was re-formed. (JNA photo).

King Hussein to attend ceremony for teachers

AMMAN (JNA). — His Majesty King Hussein will patronize the celebration for School-Teacher Day to be held Wednesday in the Palace of Culture.

During the ceremony, the King will bestow educational decorations of the distinguished, first and second orders on 54 male and female teachers who have contributed to Jordan's educational progress. Festivities will be held in other parts of Jordan on the same day.

The Ministry of Education celebrates School-Teacher Day in accordance with a decision taken by Arab education ministers in Kuwait in 1968. They decided that one day in March should be designated for honoring teachers.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian dinars for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|
| U.K. sterling | 572.0 | 578.0 |
| U.S. dollar | 332.0 | 334.0 |
| German mark | 138.9 | 139.3 |
| French franc | 66.7 | 67.0 |
| Swiss franc | 130.2 | 130.6 |
| Italian lira (for every 100) | 37.6 | 37.8 |
| Saudi riyal | 93.7 | 94.4 |
| Lebanese pound | 108.7 | 109.9 |
| Syrian pound | 82.0 | 82.5 |
| Iraqi dinar | 945.0 | 950.0 |
| Kuwaiti dinar | 1,150 | 1,155 |
| Egyptian pound | 465.0 | 473.0 |
| Libyan dinar | 810.0 | 825.0 |
| UAE dirham | 84.7 | 85.3 |

Pro-Israeli magazine banned

AMMAN (JNA). — The director general of the Department of Press and Publication has banned the entry of Shalom magazine, published by the Friends of Israel group in Finland, into Jordan because of its pro-Israeli leanings.

The ban was decided on the recommendation of the Central Office for the Boycott of Israel.

Agricultural engineers meet in Baghdad

AMMAN (JNA). — The Union of Arab Agricultural Engineers will open its third technical conference in Baghdad Monday to review, among other things, recommendations and resolutions previously taken by the union.

A Jordanian delegation, headed by President of the Association of Jordanian Agricultural Engineers Said Al-Ghazal, will leave here Sunday for Baghdad.

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NATIONAL NOTES

AMMAN. — Minister of Finance Mohammad Dabbas Saturday held over a meeting attended by the directors of the different departments, the accountants and other employees at the ministry. The session centered on cooperation and coordination among the departments concerning the levying of taxes and the spending of departments' budgets.

AMMAN. — Jordan, represented by Director of Antiquities Sub Oweiss, will participate in an international conference on museums to be held in Moscow April 19. The four-day conference will discuss the running of museums and how to preserve antiquities throughout the world.

AMMAN. — Minister of Culture and Youth Sharif Fawwaz Shattari Saturday presided over a meeting here to discuss the setting up of a national library and the training of the necessary cadres. The national documentation centre. The meeting was attended by a number of United Nations and British experts here for that purpose.

AMMAN. — Prime Minister Mudar Badran Sunday morning met with Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Bahjat al-Sayid and members of parliament to discuss with them a number of local and Arab problems.

AMMAN. — The World Supreme Council for Mosques will hold its third session in Mecca on April 3 to study subjects related to the help and participating in the planning of mosques in the whole world.

AMMAN. — Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Ghaleb Barakat Saturday evening opened a photo exhibit on tourism in the Soviet Union. The photos showed touristic historical and recreational sites, as well as art in the USSR. One of the photos exhibited His Majesty King Hussein during his recent visit to the country. (JNA photo).

Afforestation aid official leaves here

AMMAN (JNA). — Mr. Davidson, an official of the British Ministry of Overseas Development who is in charge of afforestation aid in the developing countries, left here Saturday after a three-day visit to Jordan.

During his stay, Mr. Davidson held talks with Minister of Agriculture Salah Jum'a and the Director of the Department of Forestry. He also toured two 12,000-dunum projects in the Zarqa River basin, which the British government is helping to finance to the tune of £200,000.

Director returns from educational statistics meet

AMMAN (JNA). — The Director of the Department of Statistics, Mr. Shuja' Al Assad, returned here Saturday from Baghdad after attending a conference of Arab experts and officials on educational statistics held from March 5-10.

The conference, sponsored by the Arab Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (AECSCO) discussed the role of Arab educational statistics bureaux, the standardization of terminology and the coordination of statistical work in the Arab World, besides facilitating the exchange of information among member-states of AECSCO.

RED CRESCENT DONATES JD 5,000 FOR TURKISH QUAKE VICTIMS

AMMAN (JNA). — Jordan's Red Crescent Society has sent a cheque for JD 5,000 to the Turkish Red Crescent Society as aid for victims of the recent earthquakes in Turkey. This is in addition to JD 10,000 previously sent to Turkey.

Jordan's Red Crescent also donated JD 1,000 through the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies at Geneva -- for welfare operations in Lebanon.

APOLOGY

The Jordan Times apologizes for its statistical error in yesterday's article on female workers. The figure given for the Jordanian labour force should have read 138,232, and not -- of course -- 28,232.

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A NEW RESTAURANT-BAR-DISCO OPENS IN AQABA

AQABA. — A Ministry of Tourism representative, Hr. Aighour Farraj, opened the new first-class CAT BALOU restaurant-bar-disco.

A party was given to celebrate the occasion, which was attended by a large number of people in the tourist trade.

In the photos above, Mr. Farraj cuts the ribbon to open the restaurant, and, left, guests gather at the reception party.



Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Ghaleb Barakat (left) looks over a photo exhibit on tourism in the Soviet Union, which he opened Saturday evening. The photos show touristic and historical sites, as well as art in the USSR. One of the photos pictures King Hussein during his recent visit to the country. (JNA photo).

What's Going On

The British Council presents 3 and Part 4 of "Civilisation" film series. Part 3: Rome and Reality. Part 4: The Measure of Things. 30 p.m., Monday, March 14, at British Council Hall.

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Coffee price surge raises ire of American consumers

Big talking point in the rich Western nations is the soaring price of coffee. On the London futures exchange a tonne last September was fetching around £1,500. In February, not six months later, the price had climbed to well over £3,000. In addition to shortages due to weather and war, there are suggestions that Brazil, the world's largest producer, is manipulating the price to help it meet balance of payments difficulties because of heavy oil price increases. This article reports on the growing boycott of coffee in the U.S. and examines the need for cooperation on prices between the industrialised nations and "one product" Third World states.

NEW YORK (Gemin). -- If a number of consumer groups in the United States have their way, 1977 may become known as the year of the Great Coffee Boycott.

Coffee beans that not so long ago cost 85 cents a pound wholesale in New York now bring in over 2 dollars. The retail price has climbed to 3 dollars a pound and threatens to jump to 5 dollars.

Brazil, the world's biggest producer, is seen as the culprit of the price rise. Critics claim that, despite huge crop losses due to frost in 1975, its surplus stocks are sufficient to enable it to ride out a bad year without requiring price rises.

The government of Brazil is accused of trying to meet its balance-of-payments deficit by forcing up coffee prices.

But the relationship between oil price rises and the coffee boycott is also a psychological one. Americans abhor the idea that anyone can "dictate" to them and they do have the economic power to make their

likes and dislikes felt.

Not surprisingly, low prices for commodities such as oil and coffee, as well as other raw materials, are considered in the U.S.'s best interests. Thus, while producers' cartels are unacceptable, the notion of consumer control over prices is gaining in popularity.

To some extent, of course, this sort of movement is important. As vertical integration within the American food industry grows, it becomes increasingly necessary for consumers to band together to protect their interests in quality and price. (Vertical integration means that a giant corporation controls all the processes necessary to get food from the ground to the table, i.e. farming, processing, wholesaling, transportation and retailing.)

The situation in which food is increasingly raised and sold by a very few large companies means that supermarket prices very often do not bear any relation to the actual cost of production. It is within this context that the boycott has

been developing as a means of forcing down high prices.

Some of the coffee boycotters vow never to drink another cup of coffee until the price falls. Others are having one coffee-less day a week. The boycott is by no means total, but it is gaining in popularity.

Even so, some commentators claim that the decline in U.S. coffee consumption as a result of the boycott will be more than compensated for by increased demand in other parts of the world, notably Japan and Europe.

It is too soon to say how successful the boycott will be but some of the producers are getting worried. Their nervousness was underlined by the letter written to the New York Times by the President of Costa Rica, Daniel Oduber.

He pointed out that although Americans have a right to protect consumer interests, they should also take into consideration the impact of boycotts on "one-product" countries such as his own.

Over the past 25 years, the terms of trade have consistently been against Costa Rica, and have declined, as the price of coffee has remained low while the price of imported manufactured goods has risen.

Oduber noted that 2,100 kilos of coffee bought a small tractor in 1950 whereas, in 1974, the tractor "cost" about 5,000 kilos. The recent rise in coffee prices has somewhat offset this trend, but even a partially successful boycott could wipe out these gains.

This sort of problem has been repeated around the world in countries which are partially or wholly dependent upon the sale of one raw material

for their foreign exchange earnings.

This basic inequality has been one of the motivating forces behind Third World demands for a new economic order, demands which have not met with much enthusiasm from past American governments.

If, as seems possible, the new Carter Administration intends to give more weight to the needs of Third World countries, American proponents of inexpensive commodities may well see low prices negotiated away by their government.

While prices may not rise as much as Third World countries would like, a negotiated price would certainly not be as low as consumers may envisage. Only if markets are left to themselves is it likely that commodity prices will remain at low levels.

But even if the coffee market is left alone, prices may not drop as dramatically as anticipated if Third World producers turn to other crops.

Critics of Brazil insist that Brazilian officials have attributed too much of the coffee price rise to other sources of the present coffee shortage, such as civil war in Ethiopia and Angola and poor weather conditions in Brazil.

Yet, other observers have pointed out that a considerable number of Brazilian farmers responded to the very low coffee prices of about a year ago by changing from coffee to soyabean and corn production.

If prices for coffee remain high, these producers might switch back to coffee.

It is often claimed that it will be extremely difficult to increase substantially the amount of food produced in the Third World. There is, the argument continues, virtually no "spare" land left. Indeed, one of the factors that exacerbated drought conditions in the West African Sahel zone was the expansion of farmers into extremely marginal areas.

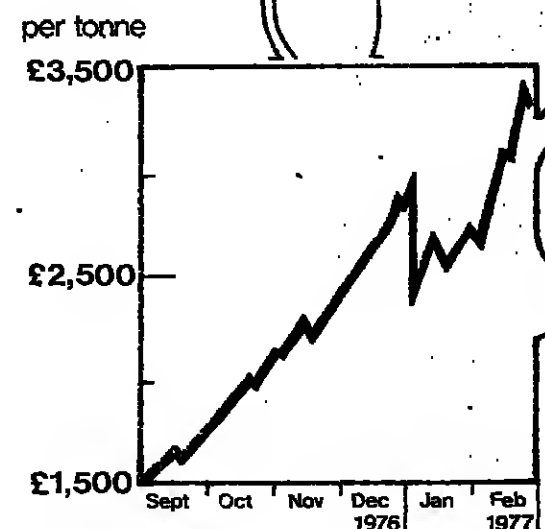
What tends to be overlooked, however, is the fact that much of the best agricultural land in most countries is devoted to non-food crops or to food crops for export. If some or all of this land were turned over to food production for domestic uses, dependence on imported food would drop considerably in most countries.

But then the rich nations who have become accustomed to drinking inexpensive coffee and tea and consuming relatively cheap bananas, pineapples and so on, will confront not only rising prices but sharply reduced supplies. Commodities that were luxuries even 50 years ago will revert to that status.

And this would not be a bad thing. Consumer groups seeking to combat price rises should remember that, in all too many cases, irrespective of the cost to the consumer, these commodities are produced at the expense of adequate food supplies for hundreds of thousands of people in producing countries.

BUBBLING OVER

Coffee prices go 'over the top' on the London exchange



Repressed labour unions and rampant unemployment restrict S. Africa's black workers

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (CSM). Many people outside South Africa wonder why blacks here do not use strikes to win political points and force changes in the system of apartheid, which relegates them to the lowest rungs in the economy and society.

The black trade union movement is, indeed, gradually gaining strength in South Africa, but blacks are a long way from being able to carry out a general strike.

There are three main reasons: (1) black unions are not officially recognised; (2) black workers are largely unaware of the power of unified action; and (3) among blacks, unemployment is rising dramatically.

Accurate statistics on the number of unemployed are not available. About 70,000 to 80,000 whites, Coloureds (people of mixed race), and Asians are out of work, while the estimate of unemployed blacks ranges from 600,000 to 2,000,000. No comprehensive tally of black unemployment is made.

An economist with the Federated Chamber of Industries says at least 12,000 Africans are losing jobs each month.

The figure of 2,000,000 unemployed would be 20 per cent of the economically active African population.

This joblessness is a big factor in the unrest in black townships. And business leaders project that it will lead to an increase of crime in the next few months. Then, they say, the government will have to do something drastic to get people back to work.

If and when unemployment is overcome, black unions can broaden their appeal. One veteran labour educationist says that for the first time since black unions began in 1920, a strong black leadership is emerging.

One labour leader claims there were 20,000 blacks in black unions in 1973 and there now are 120,000. A more likely estimate is the 115,000 suggested by the Trade Union Congress of South Africa (TUCA).

But only 4,900 have paid union dues. This is largely because unions are not allowed to deduct dues from a worker's pay. Instead they must go to the factories on payday,

and they often are harassed by employers and police.

Black unions are increasing their ties to international bodies. Ten unions connected with the Urban Training Project (UTP), an independent organisation set up in 1971 to help educate blacks in labour rights, have ties with the British Trades Union Congress and with Dutch Unions.

Mrs. Mvubelo says she is trying to get the American AFL-CIO to send representatives to South Africa. She hopes to convince them that black unions should not operate separately from white unions.

The UTP, on the other hand, says black unions should be separate from white but should work through the government system of liaison committees already set up in industries.

To a large degree the future of black unions depends on whether the government retains

these committees or abolishes them because they might be a Trojan horse for black unions.

One labour leader warns that if black unions are made illegal, South African unions would be forced to go underground, and hostility toward the government would grow.

Some businesses are beginning to see that black unions may be to their own advantage, because unions can be held accountable if they agree to a contract, whereas liaison committees cannot.

Recently an Institute of Industrial Relations was set up as a consultative body. Its membership includes big companies and 15 trade unions.

Black trade unions are expected to push later this year for recognition by individual businesses. Such a move would test government conciliation or hostility.

World Bank economist blames tropical climate for slow development

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CSM). — Why are some countries so poor and others so rich?

For years, the two most widely accepted answers to that question have been (1) that there is something inferior in the character or abilities of Third World peoples which keeps production low; (2) that industrialised nations got ahead in large part simply by exploiting the resources of developing nations.

World Bank economist Andrew M. Kamarck insists that both answers miss the mark. He argues that the climate in the tropics, where most developing nations lie, has had a large, impeding impact on the pace of progress.

For many years Mr. Kamarck, who is Director of the World Bank's Economic Development Institute, considered his theory too "obvious" for print.

"The focus on climate is necessary only because it has been neglected," he explains. In a World Bank paperback titled "The Tropics and Econo-

mic Development," Mr. Kamarck argues that the steadily hot but erratically wet climate of the tropics has hindered both development of agriculture and of minerals.

It has also, he says, made the population of the developing countries less vigorous than they otherwise might be because of the impact of hot weather on their efficiency and because of added tropical health problems.

The often unpredictable and erratic mix of wind, rain, and heat in the tropics, he explains, tends to create special production problems in these countries, so heavily dependent on agriculture. In areas where rainfall is heavy, needed nutrients in the soil tend to get leached out. Drought often occurs in the hottest and windiest part of the year, so loss of water by evaporation is high.

Furthermore, with no seasonal challenge such as a winter frost, bugs and pests tend to keep up a steady attack on existing crops and adapt easily to any new crops introduced.

The climate of the tropics, in Dr. Kamarck's view, has also handicapped the developing nations' search for and extraction of minerals. Red laterite soils, which develop in tropical climates, tend to hide underlying rocks. And relatively soluble minerals such as limestone, gypsum, and potassium and sodium salts are often almost impossible to find in areas where rainfall is heavy.

"I don't believe that the tropics are eternally condemned to be behind," he explains. Indeed, with more dollars and research, some of the worst effects of the tropical climate could be eliminated to make the location an asset, he argues.

If crop pests and the supply of water could somehow be controlled, for instance, and soils could be enriched and erosion reduced, the natural year-round growing season could be a distinct advantage, he says.

THE Sunday Crossword

(Formerly The New York Herald Tribune Crossword)
Edited by Herb Ettenson

MARCH MATTERS

By Tap Oshorn

- ACROSS
- Eng. polit. scientist
 - Aegean gulf
 - Hairdos
 - Land or sea
 - Mr. Werner
 - Honshu port
 - Toil hard
 - Surfaced
 - Topical song favor
 - "Rose"
 - Eire export
 - Thesaurus entry: abbr.
 - Farm items
 - Singer of dirges
 - Printing term
 - Talk volubly
 - Actor Hatfield
 - Makes
 - Machine guns
 - Hicks
 - Fabric
 - Grouped
 - Wood joint
 - "trap for"
 - Relative
 - of a kind
 - Thin coat
 - Sauce or
 - Old grey
 - et al.
 - Literary work
 - Unsavory
 - Joyce work
 - Meaning
 - O'Casey or
 - Connelly
 - Gas ingre-
 - dient
 - Certain celebra-
 - tions
 - Sloppy
 - Fuel
 - Chemical comb. form
 - Irish dis-
 - aster
 - Steal
 - "Spare tire"
 - Worker, in "1984"
 - Straighten
 - Up tight
 - Declaim
 - Country path
 - Giving a
 - hint
 - IRS func-
 - tion
 - Trapper
 - out a
 - living
 - Waste maker
 - Deli coins
 - Conference
 - Turnover
 - 1549, in Roma
 - Neckpieces
 - Ridiculous
 - Movie awards
 - A Joe of baseball
 - Mo.
 - Kissable item
 - Court trouble on March 17?
 - Noted eleven
 - Indians
 - Lanza
 - Rant
 - Mouth: comb. form
 - Tears
 - Look of disdain
 - Put off
 - Medieval guild

- DOWN
- a snake's belly
 - Eric —, Br. scientist
 - Quantity of
 - "Citizen —"
 - Menu offering
 - Evening affairs
 - Lend a hand
 - Stadium sounds
 - Relative
 - of year
 - Prescribes
 - Fire sign
 - Less common
 - Excesses
 - Black-fin snapper
 - Railroad track
 - workers
 - Hailed
 - Of birds
 - Eng. money
 - Garden tool
 - Went on a rampage
 - Actress May
 - Poet Rod
 - "— or when"
 - Bananas
 - Nuclear
 - weapon
 - Poker item
 - Western city
 - A Gardner
 - Early earthing
 - Accuser
 - Oboe
 - Two-toed
 - Study again
 - Perpetual, old style
 - Bridge bids
 - Explosion
 - Bent
 - Clara or
 - Ana
 - Rowlands
 - Hunt
 - Before
 - Dark red
 - scope or
 - phona
 - Wall: comb. form
 - People near Iran
 - Disinclined
 - Aver
 - Sea biscuit
 - Leah
 - Arctic jacket
 - Recite
 - Fraser of tennis
 - Feature of some cakes
 - Aphrodite's beloved
 - Bread ingre-
 - dient
 - Before
 - Dark red
 - scope or
 - phona
 - Wall: comb. form
 - Cama down

Diagramless

- ACROSS
- Damage
 - Bridge bid
 - Cuckoo
 - Perfume
 - Refuse
 - allowance
 - Hangman's
 - Liberty
 - Derrick
 - Seize
 - City on the Mississippi
 - 23 Fuel
 - Entertain
 - Mistreat
 - Offspring
 - Cut out
 - Weight-
 - watching
 - concern
 - Chest bone
 - Enjoys the sun
 - Favorites
 - Knack
 - Oceanic phenomenon
 - 40 Certain
 - allegorist
 - Rush
 - Hullabaloo
 - Strangers
 - Vessel
 - Life work
 - Tiny —
 - Unruly
 - through
 - Attempted
 - Kant and
 - Plato
 - Harangue
 - Optimistic
 - Milder

17 X 16, by Alice D. Vaughan

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SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLES

ACROSS

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- Derrick
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 - Explosion
 - Bent
 - Clara or
 - Ana
 - Rowlands
 - Hunt
 - Before
 - Dark red
 - scope or
 - phona
 - Wall: comb. form
 - Cama down

CRYPTOGRAMS

- WKYMCKXPB XJBKE YRZF JRRF SZWPWBV
ER SRRC MKPZB.
—By Earl Ireland
- XTPIEO BTPU XTUN NRINP BREENS DYJ
NUERPLYUL KRO FYUSTF DYJ "BTPU KNEI."
—By India M. Sperry
- ABLI DUST UOYE SBCILHOYOT ABI LNENG
HORN B EDDY.
—By Barbara A. Thayer
- WAR N.E.W. NOR OLD P.U.W. UPEEWULR SW
USWE NDWA.
—By David Alan

Last Week's Cryptograms

- Thin brassy blade hidden in tiny, grassy glade.
- Questionable: is liquid litter measured in liters or in cubic centimeters?
- Uncoordinated toddler stumbled while walking and sneaking his thumb.
- Gas stations charging for air? Now that's what I call inflation.

WANTED

Three-four bedroom villa or ground floor
apt. in Jabal Amman or Shmeisani.
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Intercontinental Hotel.

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مركز الصحافة

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1977 by Chicago Tribune

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AKJ62 ♠84 ♠AQ7
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one spade. What action do you take?

A.—Pass. Though you have the values for an opening bid, your three losers in opener's suit are a major drawback and your hand does not have enough playing strength for a vulnerable overcall at the two-level. If the trumps are stacked behind you, you could easily go for 1400, or more! Paradoxically, convert the queen of clubs to the ten of hearts, thus weakening the hand, and you would have a sound two-level overcall because your trump suit would provide a comfortable measure of safety.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KQJ1098 ♠A7 ♠A ♠AQJ7
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
INT Pass 5 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?

A.—Our choice would be six clubs. True, you have a completely self-sufficient spade suit with 100 honors, and no side-suit losers. However, if you bid six spades, you might be beaten if the opponents are able to negotiate a club ruff. Since six clubs should be completely safe, why take a vulnerable slam for mere honors?

Q.3—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠Q10762 ♠85 ♠74 ♠AJ93
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ 2 ♠
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♥ Pass

What do you bid now?

A.—By reopening with a double and forcing you to bid at the two-level, partner has shown not only a good hand, but support for the spade suit. You have a very fine hand in view of this development, so you must take some forward-going move to show your values. Jump to three spades.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠QJ3 ♠AJ76 ♠KQ5 ♠KJ4
Partner opens the bidding

with one spade. What do you respond?

A.—There is a bid which describes a hand with a 4-3-3-3 pattern and 16-18 points. That bid is three no trump. Why not put it to use here?

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AQ ♠KQ7 ♠AQ10754 ♠AJ
What is your opening bid?

A.—Your hand is too strong for a one-bid, for partner might pass with a key card or two needed for game. Yet it is not quite good enough for a demand bid of two diamonds. Despite the six-card diamond suit, your hand is essentially balanced with stoppers in every suit, so make the descriptive bid of two no trump.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠K7 ♠85 ♠A84 ♠AJ9652
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—Slam is a distinct possibility, and the question is how best to go about showing your values. You can't afford to raise to four spades, for partner will surely pass. The alternative is to show your ace of diamonds now, intending to support spades at your next turn.

Q.7—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠7 ♠Q1076 ♠AKJ10 ♠Q752
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Dhle. Rdbld. 2 ♠
Pass 3 ♠ Pass Pass

What action do you take?

A.—The opponents' barrage bidding has placed you in an awkward position. Partner's redouble has forced you to bid again, and you must not fail him. However, you should not double

three spades—if he couldn't, you certainly cannot with your singleton spade—so the only reasonable choice is four clubs. Your subsequent action will rest on partner's next bid.

THE PAGE FIVE FEATURE PHOTO



JUMPY -- Tests are to start soon on a new version of the British Harrier jump-jet -- the aircraft that needs no runway -- that are expected to double its range and payload. The success story of the Vertical Short Take-Off and Landing (VSTOL) aircraft received a further boost recently when the United States Marine Corps announced they were seeking approval to purchase a further 246 in addition to the 110 which its British manufacturer is in the process of supplying.

The aircraft, which has already accumulated over 100,000 flying hours, will be fitted with a new "super-critical" wing made of exceptionally strong and light material such as carbon fibre, with redesigned air intakes and other modifications which will allow it to cruise at a higher speed, to "loiter" for longer while doubling its range and weapons load.

GRAFFITI

MAN WHO SLEEPS LIKE BABY DOESN'T HAVE ONE

...HALLO!
IS THIS 6771-2-3-4?
I'D LIKE TO RESERVE
A SPACE FOR AN AD IN
THE JORDAN TIMES...

LAUGHS FROM EUROPE



GERMANY
Focke

"I'll go for help at once — but here's some antifreeze first!"

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 1977

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RIGTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A good time to make sure that you get your affairs on a more solid and secure structure. Listen to what those around you have to say, but seek advice from the experienced.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Gain the goodwill of important persons and show you have good judgment, novel ideas. Get into philanthropic work that can be most helpful.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Try to improve your position in the world through the goodwill of bigwigs. Seek out new outlets for the days ahead that are good for you. Take time for meditation that can prove helpful.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Relying on your hunches is wise now since you get excellent results. Impress others with your ability.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) If you use a different system you can solve some problem with another in a most efficient way. Don't get involved with a civic matter now or it could get you in trouble.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Do something thoughtful for persons who are loyal and you get good results. A new system for handling routine obligations makes them work better.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Daytime hours are best for entertainment, but the evening should be spent quietly at home. Take no chances where reputation is concerned.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Spend some time improving the appearance of your home. Be more concerned with the needs of kin. Be careful of intruders.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get out early to the activities that will help you to put your finest ideas across to others. Come to a better understanding with those who are close to you. Avoid one who is most troublesome to you.

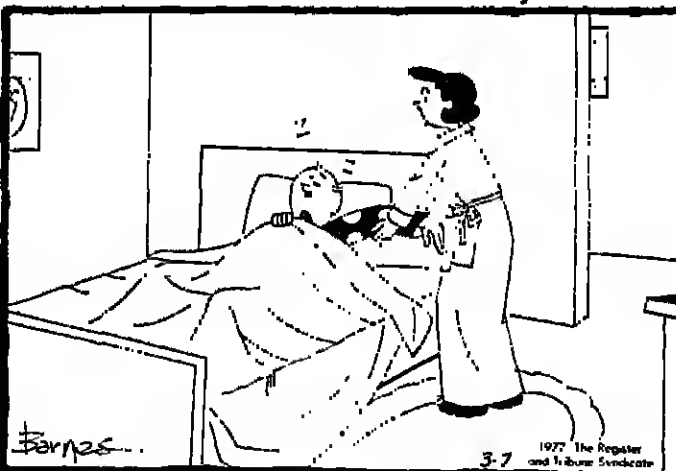
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Study your financial position early and know how to better it in the future. Listen to advice given you by an expert.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Personal matters you handle today can meet with fine success. Get together with congenial who can be of help to you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Spend some time in thinking of ways to work out problems of a business or personal nature, and come to right decision. Know better what is expected of you by a loved one and try to please more.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get together with older acquaintances and listen to their suggestions, advice. Social fun can yield fine results.

THE BETTER HALF. By Barnes



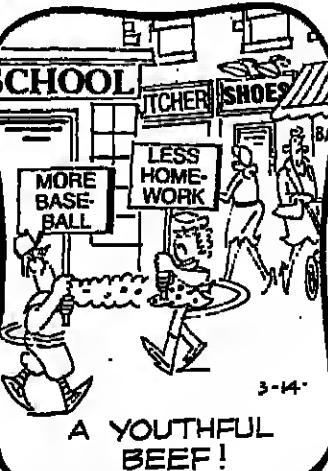
"Woke me up tomorrow 10 minutes later! I'm going to wear a wrinkle-free suit under my pojamos!"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TYFFA
UVESA
MYLLAC
FRUIGE



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

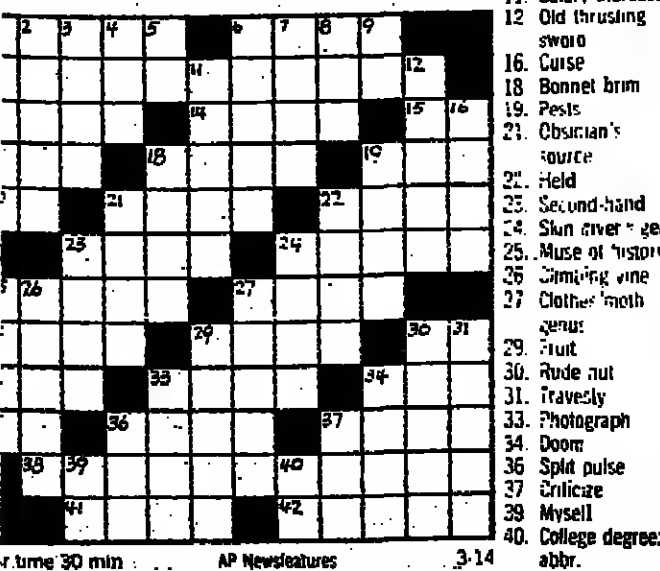
Print the surprise answer here:

Answers Tuesday
Yesterday's Jumbles: GRIPE PRUNE INFECT DISMAY
Answer: When it comes to diamonds, he's the top authority—AN UMPIRE

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1. Farewell
2. Official-Turkish residence
3. Interchange
4. Passage
5. Handout
6. In this manner
7. Divot
8. Toll road
9. Unsorted Indian
10. Hour
11. Type measure
12. Defeat
13. Puzzle
14. Track of a vessel

DOWN
1. Emerged
2. Willain
3. Frosted
4. One, in Bonn
5. Out of bed
6. Parts of eggs
7. Culmination
8. --- Cruces
9. Pronoun
10. Salary increase
11. Old thrashing
12. Old thrashing
13. Curse
14. Bonnet brim
15. Post
16. Obscure's source
17. Held
18. Second-hand
19. Skin over gear
20. Muse of history
21. Climbing vine
22. Cloth's moth
23. Fruit
24. Rude nut
25. Travels
26. Photograph
27. Doom
28. Split pulse
29. Criticize
30. Mysell
31. College degree
32. abbr.



TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURE

SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN:
BIONIC BOY PT. I

Steve helps a young boy who has been provided with bionic parts after an accident he had, to get accustomed to his new condition.

ROCKFORD FILES:
REAL EASY RED DOG

Jim Rockford investigates the murder of a young woman who has been killed for money reasons.

MAKE THE JORDAN TIMES WORK FOR YOU

An advertisement in the Jordan Times will be seen by some 10,000 people in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. Don't you have anything to say to them?

To spread your word, contact the Jordan Times advertising department by phone at 67171, or in person at the Jordan Times—Al Ra'i building, on University Road.

OUT AND ABOUT

THE CROWN ROTISSERIE

Hotel Jordan Intercontinental. Open daily for Executive Luncheon 1-3 p.m. Special International Buffet on Sundays. Dinner with live music from 7 p.m. to midnight. For reservation please call 41361 ext. 5.

QUICK MEAL

Restaurants for broasted chicken and light snacks. Take home, lunch or dinner. Jabal Amman, First Circle. Tel. 21083. Jabal Al Luweldeh, Hawuz Circle. Tel. 30646. Jabal Al Hussein, near Jerusalem Cinema. Tel. 21781. Also in Zarqa and Irbid.

CHINESE RESTAURANT

First Chinese restaurant in Jordan. First Circle, Jabal Amman, near the Abiliah School or CMS. Tel. 38968. Open daily from noon to 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Also take home service—order by phone.

THE DIPLOMAT

First Circle, Jabal Amman. Tel. 25592. Open from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. Restaurant, coffee-shop, snack bar and patisserie. Oriental and European specialties.

360° STEAKHOUSE

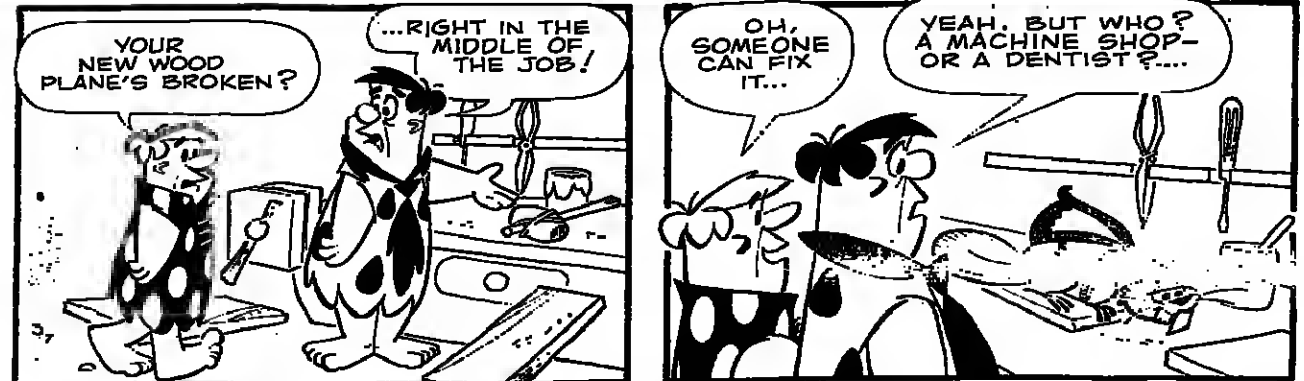
Firas Wings Hotel, Jabal Al Luweldeh. Tel. 22103-4. Choice of THREE menus daily for lunch, and a la carte. Open 12-3 p.m. and 7-12 p.m. Specialty: steaks.

For advertising in above columns contact "Sout Wa Soura" Tel. 38869. Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

PEANUTS



THE FLINTSTONES



MUTT AND JEFF



South Africa adopts stiff press law

JOHANNESBURG, March 12 (AFP). — South Africa's newspapers today unanimously attacked the government's controversial press bill as a threat to press freedom.

The bill, which passed its first reading in parliament yesterday, provides for the laying down of a press code and the establishment of a state-controlled press council to ensure the code is upheld.

The Citizen, the only newspaper not represented in the newspaper companies' (NPU), said "let the press be free".

The proposed press code demands that journalists ensure that the "moral criteria and respectability of the nation and population groups of the republic are not debased... that nations and population groups are not prejudiced and that the security of its state, the commonwealth and peace are not endangered."

The Afrikaans-language newspaper Die Vaderland said that the measure heralded war between the press and the government, arguing that the bill, by limiting the activities of a free press, would deprive South Africa of a moral trump card.

Criticism also came from Johannesburg's Die Transvaler and Cape Town's Die Burger which follow the ruling National Party line, but which also saw the bill as a threat to press freedom.

Moldavia badly hit by recent quake, 1st Pravda report says

MOSCOW, March 12 (R). — Hundreds of houses and dozens of schools and other public buildings were damaged or destroyed in the Republic of Moldavia by the shock from last week's Romanian earthquake, Pravda reported today.

In the first detailed information to be released on the effect of the quake in Moldavia, which shares a long border with Romania, the Communist Party newspaper also indicated that hospitals had been hit by the tremors.

Pravda revealed that the Mo-

ldavian authorities had set up a special commission for the liquidation of the consequences of the quake under the republic's First Deputy Premier, G.I. Yermelov — an apparent reflection of the wide extent of the damage.

But the newspaper quoted Mr. Yermelov as repeating an earlier official statement that no-one had died in Moldavia, although the force of the quake was as high as eight on the Soviet 12-point scale in the south and seven in the capital, Kishinev.

Kreisky denies Austria will buy Israeli Kfir

VIENNA, March 12 (R). — Chancellor Bruno Kreisky today denied reports that the Austrian government was ready to buy Israeli Kfir fighter aircraft in a barter deal for industrial goods.

The chancellor said an Israeli offer to provide the planes, under consideration since last year, was not even raised when the Austrian National Defence Council held a regular meeting last Thursday.

Dr. Kreisky told the Austrian news agency APA there was no truth in a report broadcast by Israeli Radio that he had recommended the purchase. In a statement yesterday, he said Austria needed fighters to reserve its neutrality, but questions involving type and timing were still under discussion.

Austria is trying to decide between the Kfir, an Israeli development of the French Mirage, and French, Swedish and U.S. aircraft as replacements for 38 subsonic SAAB-105 fighters now in use by the Austrian armed forces.

The Israeli offer involves the sale of two squadrons of Kfirs for about two billion schillings (about £70 million), to be paid for with Austrian steel and other industrial goods.

Gandhi campaigns on theme of possible Pakistani threat

NEW DELHI, March 12 (R). — Mrs. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, has made the need for a strong and stable central government one of the major planks of her election campaign.

She told a series of public meetings last night that the people of India should not min-

imise the threat from across the border in Pakistan. They should remain united to face any eventuality.

Mrs. Gandhi has stressed the issue of a potential threat along India's borders in the last two days of her all-out campaign drive across northern India as she seeks to regain ground for her ruling Congress Party before the country's electorate of 320 millions goes to the polls from March 16 to 20.

Most political analysts give the opposition Janata Party a clear edge over Congress in the northern belt, taking in the states of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal. These will return 211 members to the new 542-seat parliament.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit, sister of India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, said today the Congress Party had been in power too long and the time had come for a change of government.

Mrs. Pandit, the aunt of Mrs. Gandhi, said it was illogical to suggest that a party which had been ruling the country for the past 30 years should continue to do so in the interests of stability.

Chile's military masters claim discovery of plot

SANTIAGO, March 12 (R). — Chile's military junta has announced discovery of a plot by the Christian Democrat Party to set up an opposition front with Marxist groups aimed at overthrowing the government.

A statement issued on behalf of President Augusto Pinochet's government named the party's two top officials as the key men behind the scheme. The Christian Democrat Party, along with other non-Marxist parties, has been in "recess" since September, 1973 when the military ousted the leftwing government of President Salvador Allende, who was killed in the coup.

In a statement to reporters last night, Gen. Hernan Bejar, Secretary General to the cabinet, said documents intercepted by the government showed the Christian Democrats planned to enter into an alliance with Marxist groups, including the banned Communist Party, and base their action on a two-year time-scale. The men named as ring-leaders of the plot were party President Andres Zaldívar, a former Finance Minister, and its Vice President, ex-Sen. Tomas Reyes.

Both men were seen in San-

Turkey, USSR to sign \$1.2b credit deal

Caglayangil renews treaty with Iran

Pakistan, flies to Moscow today

TEHRAN, March 12 (R). — Turkish Foreign Minister Ihsan Sabri Caglayangil had talks today with the Shah of Iran in the southern city of Ahvaz, where the monarch is on a five-day inspection tour of development projects.

The minister then flew back here to sign a treaty of friendship with the Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Khatibzadeh and the Pakistani Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs Aziz Ahmed to change their three-nation Regional Cooperation for Development (RCD) organisation, an economic and cultural body set up 12 years ago.

The treaty embodies the decisions of the heads of the three states taken at a conference in Izmir, Turkey, in April last year, to invigorate the RCD.

The three ministers in their speeches hoped that the treaty would be a historical turning point in developing and deepening the three countries' relations and cooperation in all fields.

Mr. Ahmed said one significant aspect of the treaty was that the three member countries aimed to develop the RCD region into a free trade zone in 10 years.

The treaty, which confers international legal status on the organisation, calls for the establishment of an investment and development bank, an institute of science and technology in Iran, a school of economics and a science foundation in Pakistan, a tourism and hotel management school in Turkey and a youth foundation.

Mr. Caglayangil, who arrived here yesterday is due to return home tomorrow and leave the same day on a visit to Moscow.

Mr. Caglayangil's Moscow visit is expected to consolidate growing Soviet-Turkish economic bonds and encourage further détente in political relations. A long-term agreement believed to cover some \$1,230 million worth of Soviet credit is to be signed during the visit. Observers in Ankara also expect discussion on a long-talked-about Turkish-Soviet friendship document, though there

will probably be no immediate results.

Mr. Caglayangil will spend four or five days conferring with Soviet officials.

The Moscow visit comes during a time of strain in Turkey's relations with its traditional allies, the United States and the rest of the NATO alliance.

Turkish sources are at pains to point out that the visit, long expected, is unlikely to produce any unexpected dramatic results.

But it marks a further stage in the process of détente which has seen Moscow become an increasingly important contributor to Turkish economic development over the past 12 years.

And the growing, though cautious, détente with Turkey's giant northern neighbour is bound to be watched closely by U.S. and other Western diplomats.

The credit agreement to be signed covers a 10-year period, but it does not necessarily include all the aid Turkey will get from the Soviet Union in that period.

The \$1,230 million credit is the biggest single Soviet aid pledge for Turkey and comes after more than one billion dollars worth of credit has been pumped in since relations began warming in 1963.

The new accord provides for major expansion of a steelworks built with Soviet help at Iskenderun in southern Turkey, among other projects in this development-hungry country.

Turkish analysts believe Soviet leaders may be keen to discuss the projected friendship document. Agreement to sign such a document was reached during a visit to Ankara by Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin

in December 1975, but the two sides have not yet agreed on the wording.

A proposed Soviet draft understood to contain wording considered by the Turks to be too close to the classic "no aggression pact" formula favoured by the Russians.

Most of the warming in relations with Moscow has come during the periods in office of Turkey's right-of-centre premier, Mr. Suleyman Demirel. By he and his government remain cautious about political commitments.

The problems in Turkey's relations with the West stem largely from limits on U.S. arms supplies, imposed as a result of Turkey's invasion of Cyprus during the 1974 crisis.

Turkey's leaders are anxious to see a full flow of arms credits restored for their American-equipped army, while Washington appears to be hankering after its wish to see faster movement toward a Cyprus settlement.

Ankara has firmly encouraged Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash to take the initiative in new negotiations with Greek-Cypriots. But it is unclear how far those negotiations will get, and there is widely believed to be limits on how much the government feels it can do in an election year.

The arms credits problem have accentuated the basic economic problems of Turkey, eager for development and saddled with a balance of payments deficit of about \$1.4 billion a year.

In view of Ankara's old problems, Soviet economic and easier relations with Moscow represent a significant prize in practical and prestige terms.

U.K. football roundup

League Cup final draws one big yawner

LONDON, Mar. 12 (Agencies). — Aston Villa and Everton produced the yawn of the season by drawing a goalless English League Cup final at Wembley here today. Neither side, with two much-vaunted line-ups, produced anything like premier cup football and must try to break the deadlock in the first replay of the competition, at Hillsborough, Sheffield, on Wednesday.

The whole affair lacked flair and when referee Gordon Kew had to stop the match for a few minutes early in the second half, to recover spurs dropped by bandmen entertaining the crowd during the interval, it provided about the only excitement.

A penalty by John Wark enabled a frustrated Ipswich to beat Bristol City 1-0 in an English football league match today and so closing to Liverpool's tail at the top of the first division.

Ipswich remain one point behind Liverpool, but it looked as though bottom-of-the-table City would fall the home team's title challenge until former Leeds defender Norman Hunter brought down Ipswich striker Paul Mariner in the 71st minute after 59 minutes.

Liverpool, who have played two seasons without a league win, stayed in front with a lucky win away to Middlesbrough. Veteran defender Emlyn Hughes scored the winner in the 41st minute after a free kick by Kevin Keegan.

Manchester City, also a point behind Liverpool at the start of the day, remained in the place but trailed by three points after losing 1-0 away to Watford, a win which enabled Watford to escape from the bottom three of the table.

Queens Park Rangers received a tonic for Wednesday's European Football Union (UEFA) cup clash against Arsenal by winning 2-1 at home to Arsenal, their eighth successive defeat.

Newcastle United kept their challenge for a place in the UEFA cup next season by thrashing Norwich 5-1 in Newcastle, while Manchester United remain in fourth place, just ahead of Newcastle, after a home win against Leeds United.

9 Chinese reportedly executed for political, sexual crimes

By Georges Bianic

PEKING, March 12 (AFP). — Nine people found guilty of political and common law crimes were recently executed in Hangchow, the capital of Chekiang Province south of Shanghai, according to travellers who passed through that city in early March.

The same travellers reported today that official notices posted in the centre of town said one man was recently executed for rape.

Two women, slightly over twenty years old, and six men were executed for organising the training of armed groups and distributing subversive literature, the travellers said, citing official notices.

The eight political criminals had already been criticised in 1972, the same sources said.

This was the second such report from travellers in less than a month. On March 1 travellers returning to Peking reported the execution of a criminal for "sadism" and "sodomy" and the death sentence for eight others accused of industrial sabotage, looting and destroying.

Political crimes of this nature have also been blamed on the "gang of four" led by Mao Tse-tung's widow Chiang Ching. The "four" former leaders were arrested last October in Peking for an alleged coup attempt.

The Hangchow executions and the death sentences in Wuhan seemed to indicate that the campaign to re-establish order and discipline launched earlier this year by Chairman Hua Kuo-feng is not taking a soft line.

The incidents might also confirm reports of disturbances in several provinces before or during the time as the "gang of four" was being purged, reported in the official press.

Disturbances have been reported in the past from Chekiang Province, especially its capital Hangchow, notably in 1975.

At that time the army reportedly intervened to quell disturbances and took over several factories.

The official Chinese press recently confirmed these disturbances and blamed them most on the young former Party Vice Chairman, Wang Hung-wen.

Observers noted it was probably because of an inability to restore order in Chekiang that former provincial leader and First Party Secretary Tsai Ching-lung was recently transferred to Tsinghai, in central China, — a less important post.

Last month, an article in the official Chinese press entitled "Wang Hung-wen's plot to plunge China into chaos" accused the former leader of provoking disorder in Chekiang.

In certain areas of this province controlled by the gang of four, bad elements engaged in theft, fraud, gambling and restoring the black market," newspapers said.

Mr. Wang Shu-ho, Vice Chairman of the Provincial Party Committee and said to be a accomplice of the "gang of four" was accused of wanting to set up his own armed force.

He incited "armed confrontation, destruction and plunder in 1974, according to the article. In China the crime of rape is punishable by death.

ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS NEWS

Developing nations press for commodities' stockpiling fund

GENEVA, March 12 (R). — Developing nations yesterday pressed their case for a proposed \$6-billion international fund which would boost the exports earnings they receive for their raw materials.

The fund would pay for reserve stockpiles of various commodities — such as coffee, sugar, cocoa and rubber — and would give the developing

states more assured returns for their exports to the industrialised world.

Brazilian delegate Amaury Bier, spokesman for more than 100 Third-World states, told a conference here yesterday that the industrialised countries should be willing to begin talks on the fund without further consideration of other approaches.

Mr. Bier said the developing countries regard the proposed fund as the central element of a plan adopted in Nairobi last May by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The UNCTAD plan was aimed at regulating and stabilising commodity markets and prices.

Mr. Bier said there was no need for further talks on the concept of the fund nor for any consideration of "alternative approaches to the fund."

The purpose of this conference is to conduct serious negotiations on the concrete elements of the common fund," he added.

But spokesmen for Canada and New Zealand said various options for financing reserve stockpiles needed further study.

The four-week conference on the fund opened here on Monday. Although it is unlikely to take any major decisions, the talks are expected to get the negotiations on the fund under way.

\$255 m-federal loan for New York City announced

WASHINGTON, March 12 (R). — New York City will receive a \$255-million federal loan to pay its bills, U.S. Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal announced yesterday.

Mr. Blumenthal told a press conference he had decided to grant the loan because of the financial programme announced by Mayor Abraham Beame earlier this week, aimed at repaying the interest on \$1 billion in short-term loans.

He said Mayor Beame's financial programme "provides a prospect for repayment on June 30, 1977, sufficient to fulfil its credit agreement with the federal government."

Earlier this week a city spokesman had said that hundreds of noteholders would be

lining up on Monday morning to collect their short-term interest. He had said, that without the government loan, they would have to be turned away.

In New York Mayor Beame said yesterday that the federal loan had lifted a major financial burden from the city, but he added that New York "must continue to maintain its austere programme to regain the confidence of the capital market."

The mayor said the city's next task would be to balance its budget for the fiscal year beginning on July 1.

New York currently faces a deficit of around \$600 to \$700 million next year, even though it is legally committed to a balanced budget.

Barclays Bank is against Israel, S. Africa boycotts

LONDON, March 12 (R). — The chairman of Barclays Bank today said the bank would not "submit" to the Arab boycott of companies which dealt with Israel and defended the bank's investments in South Africa.

Mr. Anthony Tuke, in an unusually wide-ranging annual address accompanying the bank's latest accounts, said Barclays had been placed on the Arab boycott list in October. However the bank felt it had to base its decisions on "long-term" commercial rather than "short-term" political considerations.

Barclays owns a 50 per cent stake in Barclays Discount Bank of Israel.

"We are convinced that an international bank cannot submit to pressure of this sort and must work to support tolerance against intolerance. In this we believe we have the backing of many of our Arab banking friends," he claimed.

On the bank's investments in South Africa, Mr. Tuke first said that Barclays viewed apartheid as "morally and economically indefensible."

But the bank could not see how selling off its South African investments which have been the target of student demonstrations here — could possibly help the Africans, Mr. Tuke said.

"Indeed, we have been told by more than one independent visitor that our continued presence in South Africa has almost unanimous African support," he alleged.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

MANILA, March 12 (AFP). — The Saudi Arabian Fund for Development has approved a loan of 69 million Saudi riyals (\$19.5 million), for the Philippines to help finance the Cotabato electrification project in Mindanao, southern Philippines it was announced today.

LIMA, March 12 (R). — Peru will be self-sufficient in oil by next year, according to the head of the state agency Petro-Peru. But Senator Alberto Bruce Caceres warned Thursday that Peru will have to keep on prospecting in order to halt imports for good. Exploration works in the Amazonian jungle — representing a \$997-million investment — have confirmed reserves of 550 million barrels which will be pumped to the coast through a 852-kms. trans-andean pipeline.

CARACAS, March 12 (R). — Venezuela has received offers of technological help from six countries to develop its huge "tar belt" oil resources in the country's southeast. President Carlos Andres Perez said yesterday. The president told Congress in his annual message that the government was studying offers from Canada, Japan, the United States, Romania, Italy and France. Senator Perez said government experts last year began studying and evaluating research material on the belt which is believed to contain 700 billion barrels of crude oil, the highest reserves in the world.

DOHA, March 12 (R). — The Republic of the Cameroon is to receive a \$3 million loan from Qatar under an agreement signed here today. Qatar Radio said the loan to the west African state would be used to finance a hydroelectric project. The two countries today also signed a wide-ranging economic cooperation agreement between them, the radio added.

TOKYO, March 12 (R). — Japan will send an official trade mission to Bulgaria and Yugoslavia for two weeks starting on March 19 to seek ways of increasing Japan's imports from the East European countries, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said today.



CARACAS MEET — Iranian Minister of Finance Houshang Ansari (right) chats with Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez (left) during their meeting Thursday night in Caracas. In the centre is presidential aide Gonzalo Plaza acting as interpreter. (AP wirephoto).

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